MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : The dip-rod is another instrument.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : May I know the exact name of the instrument ? Is it " dip-rod " or " defraud " ?

PRESIDENT : That dip-rod has not been defrauded so far ; it is the other that has been defrauded (*Laughter*).

## NOTICES OF ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

PRESIDENT : I have received two adjournment motions. The first is from Mr. N. E. Varughese. It reads thus :

> " I beg leave to move for an adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance *viz.*, the situation recently created by the discontinuance of the Royal Proclamation regarding the relief granted to agricultural debtors and the consequent revival of their distress and difficulties. "

In the first place it has to be understood that an adjournment motion is in effect a vote of censure on the Government. In this case, the subject matter of the discussion will be a Royal Proclamation. A Royal Proclamation is issued at the pleasure of the Sovereign. It is therefore not proper, at any rate, for the House to discuss the reasons which should have influenced the Sovereign not to extend the Royal Proclamation which he had issued.

The question does not admit of any doubt as to whether a Royal Proclamation, in which the Government has no share or responsibility, could be discussed as an adjournment motion ; for, that matter has already been clearly brought home in May's Parliamentary Practice. And, that is the rule which holds the field today in the Legislative Assembly, which, for our purposes at any rate, we regard as the Mother of Parliaments in India. This is what May's Parliamentary Practice, on page 848, says—

> " Motions have also been ruled out of order when it appeared that the administrative responsibility of Government was not involved. "

As the House will realise, in the case of the issue, or the non-issue of a Royal Proclamation, the administrative responsibility of Government is not involved. Therefore, any motion to discuss the discontinuance of a Royal Proclamation would be quite out of place.

There is also one more point which, I suppose, I should invite the attention of the House to. An adjournment motion is supposed to bring in survey a matter of recent occurrence ; that is to say, an event shall have happened. An adjournment motion can very well be moved if, for instance, the Proclamation had been continued and it was regarded that such continuance of it was prejudicial to the interests of certain parties. But, here, the question is about the non-continuance of the Proclamation. There is, therefore, no event that has happened.

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For these two reasons, I hold the adjournment motion out of order.

There is also another adjournment motion. It reads this :—

"I beg leave to move that the business of the House be now adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation which has arisen in the Chirayinkil taluk consequent upon the recent floods, one early this month and another four months back, which have devastated paddy cultivation and coconut plantations in and about the backwater region of the taluk."

I would again emphasise, for the careful attention and consideration of this House, the inevitable and unavoidable conditions which ought to precede an adjournment motion ; that is, there must be a matter of *urgent public* importance. I would lay considerable emphasis on the word *public*. In this case, the grievance urged relates to a small part of one taluk of the entire State. To hold that that is a matter of *urgent public* importance would be, I fear, ignoring the conditions precedent which are essential for the purpose of admitting motions for the adjournment of the House ; for, I regard the time of the House so important that it ought not to be diverted towards matters which do not come within the four corners of Rules and Regulations laid down.

I therefore disallow this motion also.

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## DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

**PRESIDENT** : I have already explained the reasons for the absence of Mr. Truscott. The very first item relates to him. So, if the House has no objection, we will proceed to item No. 2—Education.

### EDUCATION.

**MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN** (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I beg to move for a supplementary grant not exceeding Rs. 5,310, under Education. This Demand consists of three items. I shall say a few words about each of them.

The first one is the contribution to the Travancore Boy Scouts Association, of Rs. 2,500. Sir, this Association had been, every year, getting from Government a grant of Rs. 5,000. This year the grant was reduced by one-half, namely, to Rs. 2,500. The State Scout Commissioner represented to Government that this reduction has made it practically impossible for the movement to be carried on. Sir, I have been connected with this movement since its inception in Travancore ; even now, I am an *ex officio* member of the Headquarters Council of the Association. I am convinced that it will be impossible for the Scout movement to do any tangible work in the State without a grant of at least Rs. 5,000 a year.

**MR. R. SIVARAMAN NAIR** (*Tiruvalla II*) : Why was the grant reduced ?

**MR. C V. CHANDRASEKHARAN** (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The Government felt that the Association should make strenuous efforts to retrench its headquarters establishment charges, and also tap other sources like public subscriptions and donations. The Association



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